

REMARKS

The amendments made herein are made for the purpose of more clearly describing and distinctly claiming what the applicants regard as the invention, and not for any substantial purpose relating to patentability. No new matter is introduced. Approval and entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

No fee is believed to be due in connection with this paper. However, during the entire pendency of this application the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may become due, and to credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Please address any questions or correspondence to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP



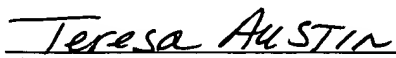
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on January 30, 2001, this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to : Box Amend, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.



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